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2003

# Hosted Lecture: M. K. Narayanan on Indian Internal Security and Intelligence Organization

Center for Contemporary Conflict (CCC)

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Indian Internal Security and Intelligence Organization

The former Director of India's Intelligence Bureau and Chairman of the Joint Intelligence Committee, Mr. M. K. Narayanan, presented two guest lectures on Tuesday, 10 June 2003:

- "The Internal Security Situation in India: Challenges and Responses"
- "Recent Changes in India's Intelligence Organization"

In the first lecture Mr. Narayanan argued that India is facing multifaceted internal security challenges including a heightened militancy in Kashmir; a moderate insurgency in the Northeast states; ethno-religious conflict in states such as Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Bihar, Orissa, and Andhra Pradesh; and organized crime in some of India's major cities. Narayanan observed that India's response to such challenges combines political, military, social and conflict management elements. He suggested that all democracies have this predicament of maintaining a balance between individual liberties and legal curbs when formulating internal security policies. He concluded by saying that while India has had its share of successes and failures in this field, he remained optimistic that the Indian security apparatus is strong enough to handle emerging challenges.

In his second presentation, Narayanan observed that like in any other state, upgrading of its intelligence organization is a continuous process in India. He reported that happenings like Punjab militancy (1983-1991), the northeast insurgency, and the ongoing conflict in Kashmir, with particular reference to the Kargil Conflict, have led to major modifications in India's intelligence apparatus. Giving the example of the new Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA), he said that as a sequel to recent studies and analysis on this subject an attempt is being made to integrate and institutionalize the strategic and functional aspects of India's intelligence apparatus.

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